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Week ended October 21, 1905. Quarantinable diseases: Plague, 1 case, 1 death; cholera, 5 cases, 5 deaths.

The number of cholera cases has remained about stationary and the situation has not shown much change, except that the cases for the week, in a number of instances, could be traced to direct infection from the provinces; so that, practically speaking, the city has been almost entirely free from the disease.

Interisland quarantine.

In view of the urgent necessity for more frequent communication with the provinces on account of the conditions which were brought about by the recent typhoon, and in view of the fact that the quarantine had been in operation for nearly two months with only 1 case of cholera making its appearance upon a vessel undergoing quarantine detention; and, furthermore, since the experience of the Service with cholera during the past three years has demonstrated that for practical purposes the incubation period of cholera is less than three days, it was decided to reduce the period of quarantine upon outgoing inter-island vessels from five to three days. The circular letter putting this order into effect is inclosed herewith.

During the week vessels bound for United States ports were treated as follows:

On October 15, 1905, the American bark *Hecla*, with 17 crew, entered quarantine prior to sailing for Port Townsend. Crew bathed, ship disinfected, and all held for five days. Released on October 20, 1905.

On October 15, 1905, the U. S. army transport *Buford*, with 157 crew and 792 steerage passengers on board, entered quarantine prior to being cleared for San Francisco. Crew and steerage passengers were bathed and their effects and baggage disinfected and detained in quarantine five days. Cabin passengers were embarked on the 20th, and, after inspection, vessel was granted a bill of health. Baggage and cargo either disinfected or passed after inspection, and so labeled.

On October 16, 1905, the German steamship *Vandalia*, en route from Japan ports to New York, was granted a supplemental bill of health. Vessel carried no passengers. Crew inspected on board prior to sailing.

On October 18, 1905, the British steamship *Sungkiang*, en route from Hongkong and Amoy to Iloilo and Cebu, entered quarantine prior to proceeding to Iloilo. Crew and steerage passengers were bathed and effects disinfected at the Mariveles quarantine station upon arrival from Amoy.

On October 19, 1905, the British steamship *Chingtu* entered quarantine prior to being granted a supplemental bill of health for Zamboanga. Vessel was cleared so as to make the quarantine and voyage total five days upon her arrival at Zamboanga. Crew and passengers inspected daily.

On October 20, 1905, the American steamship *Shawmut*, en route to Tacoma via Hongkong and Chinese and Japanese ports, was granted a bill of health. Vessel carried no steerage passengers for the United States, and after a rigid inspection of the personnel was cleared without quarantine.